



***“Reign of Christ Sunday”
Twenty-Fourth Sunday After Pentecost
November 20, 2022
Guest Speaker – Pastor Art Gotjen DMn***

***Trinity United Church of Christ
600 Main Street
Berlin, Pennsylvania***

Prelude

We Gather Together – Mary McDonald Rondeau on “Royal Oak” – Michael Helman

Welcome

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you are welcome here at Trinity United Church of Christ.

Call to Worship

The earth is the Lord’s.

Yes. You speak the truth of all ages.

He has created us as his people.

Yes. He has given us life.

We shall also receive new life.

Let us walk in the way of the Lord.

***Hymn No. 559**

Come Ye Thankful People Come

Invocation:

In so many times and ways, O God, you have made yourself and your ways known to others. Reveal yourself to us in this time and place, as we come seeking you. Prepare us for life eternal, in the name of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen

Prayer For Illumination

**Lord, open our hearts and minds
by the power of your Holy Spirit,
that, as Scriptures are read
and your word proclaimed,
we may hear with joy what you say to us today.
Amen**

Scripture Lesson

Jeremiah 23:1-6

1 “Woe to the shepherds who destroy and scatter the sheep of my pasture!” says the LORD.

2 Therefore thus says the LORD, the God of Israel, concerning the shepherds who care for my people: “You

have scattered my flock, and have driven them away, and you have not attended to them. Behold, I will attend to you for your evil doings, says the LORD.

3 Then I will gather the remnant of my flock out of all the countries where I have driven them, and I will bring them back to their fold, and they shall be fruitful and multiply.

4 I will set shepherds over them who will care for them, and they shall fear no more, nor be dismayed, neither shall any be missing, says the LORD.

5 "Behold, the days are coming, says the LORD, when I will raise up for David a righteous Branch, and he shall reign as king and deal wisely, and shall execute justice and righteousness in the land.

6 In his days Judah will be saved, and Israel will dwell securely. And this is the name by which he will be called: 'The LORD is our righteousness.

***Hymn No 563**

Count Your Blessings

*** Gospel: Luke 1:68-79**

68 "Blessed be the Lord God of Israel,
69 and has raised up a horn of salvation for us
in the house of his servant David,
70 as he spoke by the mouth of his holy prophets from of old,
71 that we should be saved from our enemies,
and from the hand of all who hate us;
72 to perform the mercy promised to our fathers,
and to remember his holy covenant,
73 the oath which he swore to our father Abraham,
74 to grant us
that we, being delivered from the hand of our enemies,
might serve him without fear,
75 in holiness and righteousness before him all the days of our
life.
76 And you, child, will be called the prophet of the Most High;
for you will go before the Lord to prepare his ways,
77 to give knowledge of salvation to his people
in the forgiveness of their sins,

78 through the tender mercy of our God,
when the day shall dawn upon us from on high
79 to give light to those who sit in darkness and in the shadow of
death,
to guide our feet into the way of peace.”

Sermon

“Thank You” Pastor Art Gotjen

***Statement of Faith**

We are not alone, we live in God’s World. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit. We trust God. We are called to be the church: to celebrate God’s presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope. In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Prayers and Concerns

Confession and Pardon:

Almighty and most merciful God, we have erred and strayed from thy ways like lost sheep. We have followed too much the devices and desires of our own hearts. We have offended against thy holy laws. We have left undone those things which we ought to have done, and we have done those things which we ought not to have done. But thou, O Lord, have mercy upon us. Spare thou those, O God, who confess their faults. Restore thou those who are penitent, according to thy promises declared in Christ Jesus our Lord. And grant, O most merciful God, for his sake, that we may hereafter live a godly, righteous, and sober life; to the glory of thy name. Amen

Silent Confession:

Assurance of Forgiveness:

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. Thanks be to God.

Let us offer one another signs of reconciliation and love.

***Presentation of the Offering – Singing of the Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise him all creatures here below;
Praise him above ye heavenly host;
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost**

Prayer of the Offering

What a wonderful time this is for us, God. And the most wonderful thing of all is that you love us and give us times this joyful and fulfilling. Thank you. Yes, thank you. Amen.

Our Lord's Prayer [using debts and debtors]

***Hymn No: 556**

Now Thank We All Our God

***Benediction:**

You are set free, now, to think and feel and do your very best for God, through our Lord Jesus Christ and by the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

***Response – Sung with Dismissal**

Go Now in Peace

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.
Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

***Going Forth**



Those Remembered in prayer:

God's guidance and protection for Armed Forces.

Shut Ins:

Lew & Barb Berkley, Roy Bucher, Helen Diest, Mary Forespring, Cynthia Kelly, Lois Krause, Debbi Luteri, Lois Saylor.

Healing Concerns:

Mark Amyot, Jerry & Kay Barnard, Donnie Baxter, Jason Benning, Jim Benoit, Carol Boyer, Rhonda Brown, Terry Coslic, Jim Coughenour, Pam Crooks, John Durst, Alvin Harbaugh, Mary Jane Harding, Andrea (Shaulis) Harris, Larry Hay, Barry Landis, Brenda & Larry Leister, Larry McCullen, Bonnie Murphy, Larry Pritts, James Robb, Nancy Schrock, Tracey Smith, Avis Specht, Phyllis Stoy, Kelly Tharp, Larry Tinkey, Adeline Vieregge, Robin Walker, Caleb Wedding, Heather Weighley, Nancy Weighley, Gerald Zorn

Prayer List Update

Once again, we are in need of your assistance in updating our prayer list of healing concerns. If you have placed someone on our list, please confirm that they are still in need of prayer or hopefully taken off thanks to God's power of healing and your prayers. Please contact the office to help us with this update.

One Call Now Prayer List

Please remember that we have the ability to request prayer for church members, families, friends and anyone in need of prayer. Never underestimate the power of prayer. One small prayer can change your life or someone's life dramatically. To request prayer

calls, simply contact Pam, our secretary at 541-990-0832 or at the office during business hours. If you are not on the one call now prayer phone receipt list and would like to be, we can do that as well.

The Saints In Action

TODAY – Reign of Christ - 24th Sunday after Pentecost
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Wednesday -There will be **NO** Trinity Bell rehearsal
There will be **NO** Choir Practice

Next Sunday – First Sunday of Advent
9:00 a.m. Worship
10:10 a.m. Sunday School

Giving From 11/13/22

	Rec	Budget	Over/Under
General	\$2559.00	\$2434.93	\$124.07
Ben	\$720.00	\$213.46	\$506.54
Maint	\$155.00	\$163.46	-\$8.46
Mem	\$0.00		
Total	\$3434.00	\$2811.85	\$622.15

Benevolence includes Donations to Food Pantry of \$65, Adopt a Family (Secret Santa) of \$275; Operation Christmas Child \$80

The **2023 Offering Envelopes** will be available for pickup at the Church on Sunday, November 20th – December 4th. All offering envelopes remaining after December 4th will be mailed. We are trying to cut down on the cost of postage, so any arrangements that can be made for pick up would be greatly appreciated.

Worship Attendance: 91
Sunday School: 22

Where You May Find. . .

The Nursery: *is on the lower level for children and their parent. A big screen TV is mounted in the room so that you may watch the service.*

At the Sanctuary Entrances. . .

Large Print Bulletins

Hearing Amplifiers

Recycling Boxes for Bulletins

These Days – Devotional

Assisting in Worship

Sound: Tyler Gindlesperger (Board), Gaye Maust (Camera)

Acolytes: Vesper Ogburn

The Flowers on the altar in honor of Cora & Lucy Wright by their mother, Alyssa Wright.

The Whole Congregation in Ministry and Assisted by

Church Secretary: Pam Bush & Jean Ann Darr

Financial Secretary: Renee Gindlesperger

Chancel Choir Director Emeritus: Linda Gallick

Handbells: Jeanne Hillegas

Virtual Organist: Rick Kimmel

Consistory Elders:

Tom Calvert, President, 814-267-3771

Rus Ogburn, Vice President, 814-267-5650

Alan Brick, 814-267-6628

Consistory Deacons:

Amy Clark, Jean Ann Darr, Ann Slifco

Leanna Coughenour, Gale Hay, John Wisler

Alissa Wright, Debbie Boyer, Gaye Maust

Church Office Hours – Tuesday through Thursday

9:00 a.m. to 1 p.m.

Church Office Phone: 814-267-3234

Mailing Address: PO Box 86, Berlin, PA 15530

Email: berlinucc@yahoo.com

Website: www.berlinucc.org

Annual Congregational Meeting – The Consistory calls for the annual meeting of the congregation on Sunday, December 4th following worship to act upon the recommendation of the Nominating Committee, adopt the proposed 2023 Budget, and take up any other business of the congregation. The meeting will commence following the service at 10 a.m.

“Secret Pals” Program

The Secret Pal reveal, from last year, will be Sunday, November 27, 8:30 am.

Adopt-A-Family aka Secret Santa

We will begin collecting money again this year for families in need. Through November 20th if you want to make a donation towards our Adopt-A-Family please make note of it on your collection envelope. Last year we supported 4 families and purchased gifts for 12 kids. In addition, we were able to provide a gift certificate for each family to have a full holiday meal. Every year there are individuals to help shop, wrap, and support this cause; it truly means so much to each of the recipients. Thank you. If you would like to partake in assisting again this year, please let me know.

Thanks, Julie Petro

*****Julie reported last Sunday that this year we have 5 families and 18 children so your assistance in anyway will help these families. *****

Christmas Play

Thank you, Amy Clark, for volunteering to be our Christmas Program Coordinator! We are sure she will be looking for assistance so please contact Amy or Kathy Spangler.

What is Operation Christmas Child?

Operation Christmas Child through Samaritan’s Purse provides shoeboxes and the word of God to children throughout the world. Although we have a short deadline to get the boxes packed and delivered, I know we can do it.

Our goal is to fill 100 boxes!

AND WE DID IT!!!! (And Then Some)

We will be delivering the boxes to the Brethren Church (the OCC drop off point for this area) the end of this week so there is still a bit of time to bring in your boxes.

If you would still like to make a monetary donation (we are a little short on the postage) you can mark your Offering Envelopes with OCC or donation boxes have been placed by the offering plates. Thank you all who came to the packing party and as it was said multiple times....” Many hands make light work”.

The Parsonage Conference Room Sunday School Class will be following this schedule until the end of the year:

Nov 13 – *Who Needs Christmas* – A unique look at Christmas.

Nov 20 – Hanging of the Greens in Fellowship Hall with snacks.

Nov 27 – No Sunday School, Profile Committee open forum.

Dec 04 – Congregational Meeting

Who Needs Christmas – if time allows.

Dec 11 – *Who Needs Christmas*

Dec 18 – *Who Needs Christmas*

This class will not be meeting on Dec 25th or Jan 1st.

This class is open to adults of **ALL** ages and is led by Sue Coughenour. *Come join us!*

Profile Committee:

We invite all of you to be part of a self-study and community learning process that will identify our church’s imagination for the future and corresponding pastoral needs. We are in the process of developing a church profile for potential candidates. There will be an open forum gathering Sunday, November 27th immediately following the church service with light refreshments. David Ackerman, Conference Minister, Penn West Conference, United Church of Christ will be there to assist, as well as provide, an opportunity to answer questions. In preparing our local church profile, what matters most is clear communication and a cohesive process to encourage maximum participation by the whole congregation.

Christmas Decorating:

It is obvious that our TUCC Elves were **EXTREMELY** busy at work this week!! We cannot thank them enough for their creativity and efforts for making the church look very festive! What would we do without you??? A big **Thank You** for everyone that helped!

Camp Living Waters

Fall Youth Rally, December 2-4, 2022. Grades 6-12. Cost \$25. Arrival: 7 p.m. Friday, Parent Pick Up: Noon Sunday. Watch your bulletin for additional details or contact Camp Living Waters at www.livingwaterscamp.org for more information.

Bethlehem Experience is being held Sunday, December 11, 2022, 4:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. This is a drive through event and will begin at the Berlin Brethren Church parking lot. The Borough Building will host refreshments. In the event of inclement weather, it will be necessary to cancel.

Laurel Highlands Chorale Concert

“Merry Christmas from Around the World”

Sunday, December 4, 2022, at 3:30 p.m.

Monday, December 5, 2022, at 7:00 p.m.

Director ~ Jan Burket

Accompanist ~Rick Kimmel

Tickets \$5 at the door or by calling

Dorene Friedline at

814-926-3610 or 814-442-0460

Christmas Eve Candlelight Service

Please join us for a special candlelight service on December 24th at 11:00 p.m. Our virtual organist, Rick Kimmel, will be playing live! Conference Minister, David Ackerman, will be leading us in worship, our Trinity Bells will be ringing, and we will be singing the praises of our Lord.

Christmas Day Service

Pastor Art Gotjen will lead us in prayer and a short message. We will share in the blessings of Christmas Day and sing carols of choice as received in weeks prior to the service.

Do you have a favorite Christmas Carol?

We are asking for requests for your favorite Christmas carol to be played at the Christmas morning service. Please let us know so

that your carol can be pre-recorded on the organ. Let's sing our favorites!

New Year's Day Service

Please watch your bulletins for information on this service soon.

Poinsettia Order Forms:

Most of you should have received your newsletter this week. Enclosed was the Christmas flower order form. We have additional forms at each entrance to the Sanctuary. Please note that these forms must be returned no later than **November 28th**. However, the sooner, the better to ensure desired colors. If you need additional room, please use the back of the form. Place your orders in the collection plates, mail or through the mail slot at the church office. Also plan to pick up your plants after Christmas morning service or during office hours the following week.

Trinity Trumpet Special Addition

Please watch your mailbox for a special edition of Trinity Trumpet sometime in mid-November. There will be information regarding our 2023 budget and new Consistory members for 2023.

Girl Scouts meet every Monday here at Fellowship Hall. They wanted to do something in return for us allowing them to meet at our church. Nine bags and four trash cans later they have cleaned up all our leaves under the big tree!!! The Girl Scout motto is "Be prepared." "A Girl Scout is ready to help out wherever she is needed. Willingness to serve is not enough; you must know how to do the job well." Thank you, girls!

Pastoral Care: For those in need of pastoral care please contact Tom Calvert, President of Consistory at 814-267-3771, who will arrange for a pastor to provide comfort and assurance in a time of crisis. If you need **immediate** pastoral care, contact Jay Shaffer at 814-483-0398.

Have a Blessed Week!!